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Message Text

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70
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 DODE-00 H-02 NEA-10 AID-05 IGA-01 EB-07 MC-02

OMB-01 /095 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/P:WJGEHRON:SS
APPROVED BY EUR - MR. STABLER
S/PRS - MR. KING
---------- 057270
R 030057Z DEC 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 264716

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:PFOR, CY, GR, TU
SUBJECT:TURKISH AID TO CYPRUS: KENNEDY CHARGES (NOON PRESS BRIEFING OF DECEMBER 2)

1. NEWS STORIES IN DECEMBER 2, 1974 PRESS REPORTS THAT SENATOR KENNEDY'S OFFICE, IN RELEASING EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT, ALLEGED THAT ADMINISTRATION IS BREAKING THE LAW BY CONTINUING TO SHIP MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO TURKEY AND THAT THE U.S. HAS INCREASED SHIPMENTS OF MILITARY HARDWARE IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR OVER THAT OF THE SECOND QUARTER.

2. FOLLOWING ARE PERTINENT Q'S AND A'S RAISED AT NOON BRIEFING DECEMBER 2 ON ABOVE TOPIC AND SOME RELATED
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QUOTE: Q: WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE, IF ANY, TO THE CHARGES MADE BY SENATOR KENNEDY OVER THE WEEKEND ALLEGING CONSIDERABLE INCREASED MILITARY AID BEING SHIPPED TO TURKEY?

A: WELL, LET ME PUT IT THIS WAY, DURING THIS PERIOD THE PIPELINE CONTINUED...CONTINUED, DURING THIS PERIOD THAT THE SENATOR REFERRED TO. BUT NO NEW COMMITMENTS WERE MADE DURING THAT PERIOD.

NOW, THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION AUTHORITY WHICH THE CONGRESS ADOPTED IN OCTOBER GAVE THE PRESIDENT THE AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND RESTRICTIONS ON NEW COMMITMENTS AND SHIPMENTS TO TURKEY UNTIL DECEMBER 10, IF THE PRESIDENT BELIEVED SO DOING WOULD ASSIST IN MOVING TOWARD A SETTLE-MENT OF THE CYPRUS CONFLICT.

NOW, AS TO THESE QUARTERLY SHIPMENTS OF MILITARY HARDWARE, THERE HAS BEEN NO ACCELERATION OF DELIVERIES TO TURKEY SINCE LAST SUMMER'S CYPRUS CONFLICT.

NOW THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL PIPELINE WITH MANY ITEMS REQUIRING TWO TO THREE YEARS PRODUCTION LEAD TIME AND SHIPMENTS WILL OFTEN VARY FROM QUARTER TO QUARTER.

NOW WITH REGARD TO THE SHIPMENTS IN THE JULY-SEPTEMBER QUARTER, ABOUT $18 MILLION OF THE $40.5 MILLION FIGURE CITED BY SENATOR KENNEDY -- OVER THAT OF THE $27.3 FIGURE FOR THE SECOND QUARTER -- IS ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE DELIVERY TO TURKEY OF FOUR F-4 AIRCRAFT AND RELATED SPARE PARTS.

TURKEY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES IN AUGUST '72 FOR THE PURCHASE OF F-4S AND DELIVERY WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN THE QUARTER I HAVE JUST MENTIONED -- DURING THE JULY-SEPTEMBER QUARTER -- THEY ACTUALLY WERE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN AUGUST-SEPTEMBER OF '74.

Q: WHAT IS THE TOTAL NUMBER IN THE AGREEMENT OF AUGUST, '72? HOW MANY OF THOSE ARE THEY TO GET, ALL TOLD?
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A: LET ME CHECK THAT, WILL YOU.

Q: SO THEN IN EFFECT, WHAT YOU ARE SAYING IS THAT IT WAS COINCIDENTAL, MERELY, THAT THE VOLUME OF ARMS SHIPPED IN THIS QUARTER WAS GREATER THAN IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER?

A: WELL, BECAUSE YOU HAVE THIS PIPELINE, AND THEN AS I

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POINTED OUT EARLIER, THE SHIPMENTS VARY FROM QUARTER TO QUARTER -- SOMETIMES THE FIGURES ARE UP, SOMETIMES THEY ARE DOWN.

Q: BUT YOU ARE NOT CONTESTING SENATOR KENNEDY'S STATEMENT THAT THE VOLUME OF ARMS SHIPPED AFTER THE CYPRUS ACTION WAS GREATER THAN THE QUARTER PRIOR TO SUCH ACTION?

A: WELL WHAT I AM SAYING, IS THAT DURING THIS PERIOD PRIOR TO OCTOBER 29, WHEN THE PRESIDENT USED THE AUTHORITY THAT HE WAS GIVEN BY THE CONGRESS -- PRIOR TO THAT

TIME, NO NEW COMMITMENTS WERE MADE.

Q: WHAT DID HE DO ON OCTOBER THE 29TH, THEN?

A: WELL SINCE THAT TIME, DELIVERIES OF ITEMS PURCHASED OR GRANTED TO TURKEY, HAVE BEEN CONTINUED NORMALLY.

Q: ARE THERE ANY DOCUMENTS TO SUBSTANTIATE ALL OF THIS -- IS THERE ANY PUBLIC DOCUMENTS OF THE '72 AGREEMENT THAT WE COULD READ THE PROVISION SAYING THAT DELIVERY WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN THIS QUARTER?

A: I DON'T KNOW, BUT I WOULD DOUBT THAT THERE WOULD BE. USUALLY, THESE CONTRACTS ARE NOT PUBLIC DOCUMENTS SO FAR AS I KNOW -- BUT I'LL BE GLAD TO LOOK INTO IT.

Q: JUST TO TIE UP A LITTLE LOOSE END -- FORGIVE ME, I WAS AWAY -- WAS THE KENNEDY CHARGE THAT THERE WAS $40.5 MILLION "ABOVE THE $23.7" OF THE SECOND QUARTER OR WAS IT JUST $12 MILLION OVER THE 23.7? WELL I MEAN, IT MAKES A SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE BECAUSE YOU SAY ABOUT $18 MILLION UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THAT $40.5 MILLION WAS TAKEN CARE OF BY THE --

A: WELL AS I RECALL, THE ARTICLE THAT I READ, IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, THE FIGURE WAS $27.3 AND THEN THE THIRD QUARTER WENT UP TO $40.5. WHICH -- AND AS I HAVE EXPLAINED, THE ITEMS ARE IN THE PIPELINE, AND IT VARIES FROM QUARTER TO QUARTER -- SO THAT THE FOURTH QUARTER COULD GO -- I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WOULD BE BUT IT COULD GO WAY DOWN.

Q: YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT CALENDAR YEARS, NOW?

A: YES. AND OF THAT $40.5, AS I POINTED OUT -- ABOUT A LITTLE LESS THAN HALF WAS ACCOUNTED FOR BY FOUR AIRCRAFT AND RELATED SPARE PARTS.

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Q: AND WHAT WAS THE FY '73 MILITARY AID PROGRAM FOR TURKEY?

A: I'LL GET YOU THE FIGURE. I DON'T HAVE IT HERE.

Q: IS THERE ANY PROSPECT NOW FOR MEETING THE TERMS OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION TO AVOID A CUTOFF OF ALL AID TO TURKEY AFTER DECEMBER THE 10TH?

A: I DON'T WANT TO SPECULATE ON THAT.

Q: YOU KNOW THERE WAS A STORY IN A CYPRIOT NEWSPAPER

TODAY, CHARGING THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS AMBITION TOWARDS TAKING OVER A BRITISH MILITARY BASE IN SOUTH CYPRUS. DO YOU HAVE ANY RESPONSE TO THAT?

A: I'M TRYING TO THINK OF AN APPROPRIATE ADJECTIVE. WELL, LET ME JUST SAY THAT IT IS COMPLETELY WITHOUT ANY FOUNDATION WHATSOEVER. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, PRESS RELEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WJGEHRON:SS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740349-0850
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741264/aaaaccum.tel
Line Count: 190
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CollinP0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 OCT 2002 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2003 by CollinP0>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: URKISH AID TO CYPRUS: KENNEDY CHARGES (NOON PRESS BRIEFING OF DECEMBER 2)
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU, US
To: ANKARA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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